STATE OF CALIFORNIA

State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission

In the Matter of:	
)	
Application for Certification for the)	Docket No
Sunrise Cogeneration and Power Project)	
(SUNRISE PROJECT)	98-AFC-4
)	

INFORMATION HEARING BEFORE:

GARY FAY, HEARING OFFICER
THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1999
6:42 P.M.

Reported By: Tricia D. Burt, CSR No. 11518

1	BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA;
2	THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1999; 6:42 P.M.;
3	DERBY ACRES
4	
5	MR. MOORE: Good evening. My name is
6	Michal Moore, and I'm a commissioner, and I'm the
7	presiding member of the Sitting Committee that will
8	be reviewing this application.
9	I'm joined tonight by Jan Sharplass, who
10	has a short speech to issue. That's not right.
11	Jan Sharplass is here next to the hearing
12	officer, and we're both, as I said, commissioners at
13	the California Energy Commission. We comprise the
14	committee that will review this application and make
15	a recommendation to our colleagues, which ultimately
16	will result in a decision regarding the
17	certification final certification of this
18	application.
19	What I would like to do tonight is I
20	would like to walk through what we're going to
21	present. Commissioner Sharplass and the staff and I
22	are here to get acquainted with the area, to present
23	ourselves to the the people that are here, and to
24	help you understand the rules of the system that we
25	operate under and the role that we play in this
26	process.

So with your indulgence, while you eat --

- 2 and please feel free to do that --
- 3 Commissioner Sharplass is doing that without
- 4 feeling --
- 5 MS. SHARPLASS: Embarrassed.
- 6 MR. MOORE: -- embarrassed or put upon --
- 7 let me just review a couple of things and introduce
- 8 people up here.
- 9 Again, we're -- we're going to be pretty
- 10 informal through this process, but there are formal
- 11 issues that we'll attempt to -- the way we run
- 12 things, who can talk to us without being in a public
- 13 forum, the nature of the communication that you have
- 14 to use in order to get to us because we will undergo
- 15 a kind of transformation after tonight, and contact
- 16 with both commissioners and certain members of the
- 17 staff will become more formalized -- more routinzed
- 18 over time.
- 19 So with that -- and I'm sure that I'll be
- 20 stopped if I blow it -- I'm going around. Let me
- 21 introduce some of the people that are here with us.
- We've brought a great number of people
- 23 down from Sacramento, not all of whom will travel at
- 24 future hearings, but many of which you will see
- 25 again.
- 26 So let me start on the far right:

1 Arlene Ichien, who is from our legal office from

- 2 Sacramento.
- 3 Kristina Bergquist, who is the project
- 4 manager and represents the California Energy
- 5 Commission staff. Kristina is the point person that
- 6 information from the public and the applicant travels
- 7 through before it reaches the commissioners. So she
- 8 is literally heading up a team of very specialized
- 9 people who will produce the documents on this report.
- 10 She's joined by two staff members:
- 11 Joe Lawyer, here; and Keith Golden, who is just to
- 12 Keith's left. And air quality --
- MR. GOLDEN: Air quality.
- MR. MOORE: And they're both from air
- 15 quality -- that's not an issue here because --
- MS. BERGQUIST: In addition, we also have
- 17 Rick York, who is the project biologist.
- 18 MR. MOORE: Good. Rick, why don't you
- 19 stand up so everyone can see who you are.
- 20 MR. YORK: Project Biologist.
- 21 MR. MOORE: And on Ms. Sharplass' right
- 22 is Rosella Shapiro, principal advisor. Gary Fay is
- 23 our hearing -- esteemed -- I was looking for an
- 24 adjective. Our esteemed hearing officer, and he
- 25 basically represents the commissioners at this
- 26 hearing. He's a lawyer, and he gives us advice on

1 how to prepare our documents and how to conduct the

- 2 meetings.
- 3 On my left is Shawn Pittard, who is my
- 4 advisor in Sacramento, and Laurie ten Hope, who is
- 5 advisor to Commissioner Sharplass in Sacramento.
- 6 And with that, I'm going to ask the
- 7 project's Applicant to introduce the people at your
- 8 table, since I don't actually know everyone there,
- 9 although I probably met everyone, but I don't claim
- 10 to know them.
- 11 MR. DINKEL: My name is Paul Dinkel with
- 12 Texaco Global Gas and Power, and we have down at the
- 13 far end Steve Clark, who is with our consultant
- 14 BP & C Contractor Black & Veatch.
- 15 Next to him is Don Mundy who is from
- 16 Black & Veatch. He is our transmission consultant.
- 17 We have Jeff Harris, who is with
- 18 Ellison & Schneider. They are our legal
- 19 representation for the CEC process.
- 20 Dave Stine who is with Raidon
- 21 International. He is our program manager and our
- 22 environmental contractor helping us with the ASC
- 23 application.
- We have Julie Way, who is also with
- 25 Global Gas & Power. She is the team leader for the
- 26 Sunrise Project. And Mervyn Soares who is with

1 Texaco Global Gas & Power. He is our environmental

- 2 supervisor at the Sycamore Cogeneration Facility.
- 3 And we have Greg Hardy, who is our public
- 4 and government affairs manager out of our Bakersfield
- 5 office.
- 6 MR. MOORE: Thank you very much. All
- 7 right. Let me go through a couple of steps just so
- 8 I -- I will, at various times, have to make sure I
- 9 get certain items on the record.
- 10 As you will see, we have a stenographer
- 11 here who will be capturing the things that are being
- 12 said. We preserve a written record of everything
- 13 that is said here in these formal hearings. Not
- 14 everything that happens at the public workshops,
- 15 where the public can be invited to come and express
- 16 their opinions, is recorded so formally.
- 17 But in any meeting that commissioners are
- 18 attending, there will be a formal record kept, and it
- 19 will be used by us in the preparation our of report.
- Now, as I said, we undergo a fairly
- 21 formalized process that we have to adhere to, and one
- 22 of the things that is important for me to note to
- 23 anyone who is here from the general public who might
- 24 be tempted to either speak at one of the hearings or
- 25 submit written materials, the only things that we can
- 26 act on when we issue an opinion are things that are

- 1 put on the record.
- 2 So if you've been thinking something and
- 3 you're imaging that you can telepathically
- 4 communicate it to us -- it may reach us; it may reach
- 5 some of our staff members before it reaches us -- you
- 6 can do that, but it won't be admissible in the
- 7 record.
- 8 So you have to be careful and make sure
- 9 if there is something that you want us to know that
- 10 is important to act on as far as the project goes,
- 11 it's got to be submitted formally in the -- in the
- 12 record.
- So let me just say this is an
- 14 informational hearing. This is for us to get smart
- 15 about the project, see the site, meet some of the
- 16 people that are involved, and it's the first public
- 17 event for this project that's been conducted as a
- 18 part of our licensing procedures.
- 19 We sent notice of today's hearing to all
- 20 parties: adjoining landowners, interested
- 21 governmental agencies, and other individuals, as of
- 22 February 25 of this year.
- In addition, notice of today's event was
- 24 published in a local newspaper, and you know what?
- 25 I failed to introduce our public advisor
- 26 Roberta Mendonca.

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1 Roberta is an independent agent. She is
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- 2 appointed by the governor, works in the CEC building,
- 3 and her job is to make sure that the public has
- 4 access to the process and to the commissioners via
- 5 these public forums in order to get us information.
- 6 So when there is an informational item
- 7 that's placed, I'm assuming that Roberta is aware of
- 8 it and is helping to make sure that it's properly
- 9 done and properly noticed and that you have access to
- 10 all of us.
- 11 Typically, when we come to a hearing like
- 12 this, Roberta will make sure that people have access
- 13 to a blue card, not to be confused with the blue
- 14 envelopes which we expect money to be put in for us
- 15 at the end.
- 16 The blue cards are to sign up and make
- 17 sure that we know and can kind of stage who we are
- 18 going to have speak, just so we know about
- 19 what they're going to say.
- 20 So the person who is coordinating public
- 21 input -- if you have questions about what we're
- 22 doing, why we're doing it, when the next meeting is,
- 23 Roberta is the person that you'll contact, and she
- 24 will be very happy to make sure that you have all the
- 25 information and access that you need.
- MS. MENDONCA: Thank you. Will I have a

- 1 moment or two later?
- MR. MOORE: No. (Laughter.)
- 3 Yes. When I finish my remarks, I'm going
- 4 to be asking various parties to come and talk.
- 5 Documents that pertain to today's hearing
- 6 include a staff-issues identification report that was
- 7 filed on March 8 and --
- 8 Kristina, those are available on
- 9 the table --
- 10 MS. BERGQUIST: On the back table.
- MR. MOORE: On the back table. So if you
- 12 want to see what we've published so far, what we know
- 13 about this in the public so far, those reports are in
- 14 the back.
- The purpose of today's hearing is to
- 16 provide a public forum to discuss the proposed
- 17 project, Sunrise Cogeneration and Power Project
- 18 to be exact, and to describe our review process and
- 19 to identify the opportunities that any of you have to
- 20 participate and communicate with us.
- 21 All right. It was scheduled prior to
- 22 this hearing, to visit the -- I'm sorry. Was
- 23 scheduled in order to allow people to get out and see
- 24 the site including the commissioners.
- 25 So the process that we run is
- 26 approximately a year in length. It's designed to be

- 1 pretty tight. Just not only to afford the
- 2 Applicants the ability to get into the market and be
- 3 competitive, but also to make sure that we don't
- 4 dottle and that we do our job and that we get the
- 5 documents and the review process done on time.
- 6 The commissioners who are conducting this
- 7 are, as I said -- are fairly formalized in the
- 8 process that we have to undertake.
- 9 We will produce at the end of this a
- 10 document known as "The Presiding Members Proposed
- 11 Decision."
- 12 That does not mean that I will produce
- 13 such a report and ignore the wishes of the second
- 14 member of the committee. It's titled that way, I
- 15 think -- historically, the document that will be
- 16 produced will represent the opinion of both
- 17 commissioners here and our feelings as to not only
- 18 whether the project ought to be certified, but the
- 19 conditions under which it would be certified in
- 20 mitigation -- measures that it would have to
- 21 undertake should it be certified.
- Now, I've got to tell you something about
- 23 how you can contact us, and we have very, very strict
- 24 rules regarding this established through our own
- 25 regulations and through a thing called "California
- 26 Administrative Procedures Act," which expressly

1 prohibits under penalty of law, off the record

- 2 contact between any of the participants in this
- 3 hearing and the commissioners and our staff.
- 4 So as of tonight, there is a formal rule
- 5 known as "ex-parte contact" that will be in effect,
- 6 and any communications that's made to us will come
- 7 through our hearing officer or through the project
- 8 manager and will be literally docketed, put in the --
- 9 in the docket record as commissioned and made
- 10 available for the -- for everyone in the public to
- 11 see.
- 12 It's a very open process. So no one is
- 13 going to have communications with us -- a secret of
- 14 some kind or cut a deal with us behind anyone's back.
- 15 Everything we do will be out in public. Everything
- 16 we do you will know about. And if we issue an
- 17 opinion on something, it will be published.
- 18 The purpose of the rule is to make sure
- 19 that everybody gets full disclosure, everyone
- 20 understands the rules of the game, and that you
- 21 understand the nature of the information that's out
- 22 there.
- I want to inform you that there are
- 24 people out there known as intervenors. And if you're
- 25 for the project and they're not, then they're bad
- 26 people; and if you're for the project and they're for

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1 the project, then they're good people. But the
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- 2 intervenors are people who are interested and want to
- 3 participate in the process in a very formalized way.
- 4 We have already received petitions from
- 5 various agencies who know they want to intervene,
- 6 that is, participating in a routinzed way where they
- 7 receive copies of everything that goes into the
- 8 docket; and if they opine about something, they will
- 9 make sure information travels to everyone else, every
- 10 other intervenor, as well as in the public record.
- 11 So I want to inform the record and the
- 12 public a little more formally here that petitions to
- 13 intervene have been filed by the California Unions
- 14 for Reliable Energy, otherwise known as CURE; and by
- 15 La Paloma Generating Company, LLC.
- 16 CURE's petition was granted by us. They
- 17 were granted status as an intervenor on March 11 of
- 18 this year; the La Paloma and High Desert petitions
- 19 for limited intervention were granted today.
- 20 All right. Now, just a note on
- 21 procedures. During the course of today's hearing
- 22 we'll proceed in the following way: First, the
- 23 commission staff, in the form of Kristina, I believe,
- 24 is going to present an overview of the licensing
- 25 process and it's role, the staff role in reviewing
- 26 the Sunrise Cogeneration and Power Project.

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1 I'm going to turn, finally, to
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- 2 Roberta Mendonca, if she gives me her blue card with
- 3 here name on it, who is our commission's public
- 4 advisor, and she is going to explain how to get
- 5 information about the process, how to get access to
- 6 our to our web site. We're doing a lot more,
- 7 electrically.
- 8 So for those who don't have a computer
- 9 but can get to your public library where they do have
- 10 one, you can get a wealth of information
- 11 about what we are doing, what we are saying, what the
- 12 schedules are simply by going to the web site.
- 13 Then I will turn to the Applicant who
- 14 will describe the proposed project and explain their
- 15 plans for developing the project site, and at the end
- 16 of that, anyone who really is still here and
- interested, will be asked to comment on that.
- 18 Following that, we'll turn to the
- 19 questions and scheduling. We'll try and let you know
- 20 how fast this process will go along and what we
- 21 expect to be happening at the various stages.
- 22 Any questions on what I've just talked
- 23 about?
- 24 There's more food outside. So if you
- 25 feel like having more, feel free to partake, and with
- 26 that, Kristina -- I'm sorry. Jan, let me go back to

- 1 you.
- 2 Do you have anymore comments?
- 3 MS SHARPLASS: No.
- 4 MR. MOORE: Good.
- 5 Kristina, I'm going to turn to you and
- 6 ask you to give the staff presentation.
- 7 MS. BERGQUIST: Do it twice more and hold
- 8 the keys down separately.
- 9 Welcome everyone. Again, my name is
- 10 Kristina Bergquist. I'm the project manager for the
- 11 Sunrise Cogeneration Power Project, and I'm here this
- 12 evening in part to explain to you a little bit about
- 13 the -- what we do as the Energy Commission. We
- 14 staff the Energy Commission in the process through
- 15 which we work.
- 16 The Energy Commission has permitting
- 17 authority on thermal power plants over 50 megawatts
- 18 or greater. It also has permitting authority over
- 19 any facility that is associated with the power
- 20 plants, such as a transmission line, water lines,
- 21 natural gas pipelines, any other pertinent facility.
- 22 And the Energy Commission, in this instance, serves
- 23 as the lead agency for the purposes of complying with
- 24 the California Environmental Quality Act.
- We do, through our certification
- 26 process -- we produce a document that is the

1 equivalent to an Environment Impact Report. And we

- 2 also are the -- this is sort of a "one-stop-shop" for
- 3 permitting purposes.
- 4 We sort of work very closely with
- 5 federal, state, and local agencies in meeting their
- 6 concerns and needs, and in many instances, I'm glad
- 7 to see we have one of our -- our local agencies here
- 8 tonight.
- 9 This, by the way, is Chuck Dixon, who is
- 10 with the Kern County Fire Department.
- 11 The Siting Process involves a 12-month
- 12 review period or process. And we start off with
- 13 prefiling review, which you've already completed,
- 14 followed by Data Adequacy, which their application
- 15 for certification was found to be data adequate,
- 16 which their application for certification was found
- 17 to be data accurate.
- And, now, we are at the discovery phase,
- 19 which is where we -- we conducted this informational
- 20 hearing. We do site visits. We do data requests.
- 21 We have workshops. We do scoping, and then finally
- 22 we'll go into a period we call the "Analysis Period"
- 23 where we will prepare the preliminary staff
- 24 assessments. We do workshops, and, finally, we end
- 25 up with the final staff assessment.
- MR. MOORE: Kristina, why don't you

- 1 explain what "workshop" means.
- MS. BERGQUIST: A workshop? Workshops
- 3 are held by the staff as they are meant for the
- 4 Applicant, they're meant for the public, or
- 5 interested parties. They're meant for the
- 6 intervenors. They're meant for all of the -- you
- 7 know, all the responsible agencies, and trusting
- 8 agencies, and usually they are there as a theme or a
- 9 reason for that workshop.
- 10 And it might be that there is a lack of
- 11 understanding as to what exactly is wanted from -- by
- 12 the Applicant on certain issues. Let's say, for
- 13 instance, on air quality. And so all these parties
- 14 meet in a noticed public forum where they work out
- 15 any issues that might have arisen around a subject
- 16 area, and air quality is just something I picked out
- 17 of the air. It could be on anything, really,
- 18 literally.
- 19 Finally, we go through a period of
- 20 evidentiary hearings which are conducted by the
- 21 commission and then finally followed by a decision.
- 22 And then, very importantly, the
- 23 commission establishes a set of conditions under
- 24 which they will issue the permit and evolve into what
- 25 is finally known as the "compliance" or "monitoring"
- 26 phase.

1 So that means we have staff that goes out

- 2 and literally checks to see whether the terms and
- 3 conditions of the permit are actually being
- 4 fulfilled.
- 5 Again, just to sort of back up, what
- 6 Commissioner Moore was saying, this is a very open
- 7 public project. When we conduct workshops and
- 8 hearings, we notice them. You know, we notice them
- 9 10 to 15 days in advance. And we also establish
- 10 mailing lists. That is to say -- tonight, by the
- 11 way, there is a sign-up list being circulated around
- 12 the room, and I -- if you were interested -- first of
- 13 all, we would like to know that you are here; but if
- 14 you're interested in receiving all of the notices and
- 15 other items that we mail out, please check that upper
- 16 right-hand box.
- 17 Here locally where you could obtain
- 18 copies of the AFC, which is huge by the way. I mean,
- 19 there's people who already (inaudible) which only
- 20 has one volume of a two volume set. Most of the
- 21 Volume II are technical appendices.
- I mean, I don't want to get that in-depth
- 23 on the project. We placed these in the area at the
- 24 main library in Bakersfield; at the Taft branch
- 25 library, Buttonwillow; the Energy Commission library
- 26 in Sacramento. We also make a lot of these documents

- 1 available on our web site, which is
- www.energy.ca.gov/siting cases/sunrise.
- 3 You also you can get a copy -- an actual
- 4 paper copy of the document by going to the dockets
- 5 unit at the Energy Commission in Sacramento.
- 6 Now, earlier Commissioner Moore was
- 7 talking about how things are run, and it's a real
- 8 tight ship. And what is most unusual in terms of the
- 9 process is the so-called ex-parte rule, if you
- 10 would.
- 11 And as you can see from this diagram,
- 12 that communications -- for instance, staff does not
- 13 communicate directly with the committee. It does not
- 14 communicate directly with the commission. It talks
- 15 to the intervenor. It talks to the Applicant. It
- 16 talks to agencies. It talks to the public -- public
- 17 advisor, but it does not communicate with the
- 18 commission or the committee for this project.
- In turn, you can see the agencies are --
- 20 can communicate with the committee and the
- 21 commission. And also that the public can as well.
- MR. FAY: Kristina, can I just interject?
- 23 I just want to make it clear that what I think what
- 24 she means is that the only way the staff or anybody
- 25 below that line communicates with the committee is
- 26 either in a hearing like this, a public hearing, or

1 in writing that is submitted to the docket where

- 2 anybody can go to the docket and see that
- 3 communication.
- 4 So members of the public, the Applicant,
- 5 agencies, et cetera, could write to the committee,
- 6 but it would be a docketed item and the writing would
- 7 be made public.
- 8 MS. BERGQUIST: As I said earlier, the
- 9 Energy Commission is a state lead agency for the
- 10 California Environmental Quality Acted.
- 11 And also in this instance in particular
- 12 with this project, we'll be working with the
- 13 United States Bureau of Land Management and the
- 14 U.S. Fish and Game. We'll be working very closely
- 15 with the California Department of Fish and Game. We
- 16 will be working closely with Kern County. Also,
- 17 we'll also be working closely with the San Joaquin
- 18 Unified Air Pollution and Control District and also
- 19 with West Kern Water District.
- 20 Staff's role in this project will be to
- 21 review and analyze the Sunrise Cogeneration Power
- 22 Project and that includes the switchyard; switching
- 23 station; interconnecting pipelines, such as fuel,
- 24 which would be natural gas in this instance; and
- 25 potable, produced waste water.
- We'll also look at a 14.5 mile 230-kV

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1 electric transmission line. It will be reviewed,
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- 2 analyzed -- what is known as the "TNAP utility
- 3 corridor." The effected area of The Midway-Sunset
- 4 oil field expansion, and the 20-inch natural
- 5 gasoline, which interconnects with the Kern-Mojave
- 6 pipeline.
- 7 Staff will focus on issues related to
- 8 public health, safety and welfare, environmental
- 9 consequences, and engineering aspects of the project.
- 10 In its review and analysis, the staff
- 11 will examined as to whether there is compliance or
- 12 conformance with laws, ordinances, regulations to
- 13 standards, environmental assessment.
- 14 They will identify the environmental
- 15 impacts, if you would; and, therefore, the
- 16 consequences; identify what you can do to mitigate
- 17 the so-called consequences; recommend -- make
- 18 recommendations for certification, conditions for
- 19 certification; and also look at the various
- 20 alternatives to the project which have been proposed.
- 21 It would also -- it will also facilitate
- 22 and coordinate public and agency participation, such
- 23 as issue resolution and also work very closely with
- 24 all of the federal, state, and local agencies, which
- 25 they will coordinate their licenses and permits.
- 26 And, finally, here is the -- a particular

1 slide which you may be interested in. This gives you

- 2 our -- all of the contacts that have been explained
- 3 by Commissioner Moore to you this evening, and these
- 4 are available as part of the handouts we have here in
- 5 the front table; so I would suggest that you go and
- 6 grab one.
- 7 At this point, we are going to end this
- 8 part of our -- our informational hearing and back to
- 9 Mr. Fay.
- 10 MR. FAY: Well, let me turn to the
- 11 public advisor and ask her to introduce herself and
- 12 her office and what she does.
- MS. MENDONCA: Hi, I'm Roberta, and I
- 14 guess at the beginning -- I have a name that's not
- 15 very easy to pronounce. So my last name is Mendonca
- 16 and the clicker in it is the "C" is actually
- 17 pronounced like an "S," but it's okay. I answer to
- 18 Roberta, and I do have an 800 phone number that is
- 19 also included in the information over there and
- 20 accessible on the internet, and I can give you my
- 21 direct line as we're speaking this evening, should
- 22 you want to call me directly.
- 23 "The Office of the Public Advisor." Why
- 24 do we have an office of the public advisor? Well,
- 25 I'm not a commissioner; I'm not a decision-maker; and
- 26 I'm not a part of the staff. I'm here --

1 specifically, my position was specifically created to

- 2 enable the public to take part in what is something
- 3 of a complicated process.
- 4 For example, you probably heard some
- 5 words tonight that you're not very comfortable with
- 6 like "docket." Everybody's talking about the docket.
- 7 Well, what's the docket? The docket is like a great
- 8 big file cabinet, and everything in this process gets
- 9 put into the file cabinet. But, interestingly, when
- 10 the commissioners sit down and make their decision,
- 11 they can't just go to this big file cabinet and say,
- 12 "Well, this is in the file cabinet." They have to
- 13 rely on what's called "the record," which is only
- 14 taking part at the type of meeting that Mr. Moore
- 15 mentioned -- Commissioner Moore mentioned, which is a
- 16 formal evidentiary, which is a hearing to decide on
- 17 issues.
- 18 So part of this process -- I'm here to
- 19 simplify and make it accessible to you, and one of
- 20 the things that you might want to know about, what
- 21 has been mentioned, is the term "intervenor."
- 22 An intervenor is a person who would like
- 23 to be a part of the process. You can be a
- 24 cheerleader intervenor and love everything that's
- 25 going on or you can be a concerned citizen intervenor
- 26 and just want to make sure that the noise level or

- 1 the air quality or particular parts of this
- 2 particular process makes sense to you: Where you
- 3 live, your family, your school, your own neighbors.
- 4 And that type of intervention is welcome. All you do
- 5 is you go out and ask the Commission -- you fill out
- 6 a petition in my office. We'll get you the forms and
- 7 help you with that process.
- 8 Intervention is easy. I would only
- 9 warrant that it should be done early. And the reason
- 10 that you would want to intervene comes back to the
- 11 whole concept to the types of hearings -- workshops
- 12 are relatively informal.
- 13 You can come as a member of the public
- 14 and offer your opinion and people consider it and
- 15 take the thoughts and react upon it; but when the
- 16 commissioners sit down at the final decision time,
- 17 they can't take into account your input unless it
- 18 becomes a part of that special part of that file,
- 19 unless it's a part of the evidentiary record, and the
- 20 only way you can do that is to testify at one of the
- 21 formal hearings.
- The public can make public comments,
- 23 which is important, and it is considered, but only
- 24 intervenors can testify. It's that element that
- 25 becomes a part of the decision-making process.
- So the public advisor is an attorney, and

1 I'm a lawyer, and I'm here to make it easy for you

- 2 all to participate at any level that want; so,
- 3 please, do call upon me. Thank you.
- 4 MR. MOORE: Thanks, Roberta.
- 5 Let me just add that we conduct a very
- 6 open public process here, and when the public comes
- 7 to speak to us, then both commissioners take note of
- 8 it. We're conscience about that, and we include
- 9 whatever is said in our own deliberations.
- 10 You don't have to be an intervenor to be
- 11 heard by us. Being an intervenor is a formalized
- 12 role. It's a highly responsible role.
- 13 Everyone who has had practice in being an
- 14 intervenor who has been in the process knows that
- 15 there is a great deal of responsibility that goes
- 16 along with being an intervenor. It's not casual.
- 17 And as a consequence, when you are in
- 18 that role and you want to serve papers to us, you
- 19 have to serve every other intervenor. So you have to
- 20 be responsible in that way. You have to be
- 21 responsible in the sense that you can be
- 22 cross-examined as a witness.
- 23 So it's a burden. It's an opportunity
- 24 but a burden as well. So I just want to assure you
- 25 that that process is available to anyone who wishes
- 26 to partake of it. They can petition us to be an

1 intervenor, but in no way will we not take what you

- 2 say seriously and frankly, incorporate it into our
- 3 own thinking.
- With that, let me turn to the Applicant
- 5 and ask for your presentation and --
- 6 Do you have slides?
- 7 MR. DINKEL: Yes. We're going to use the
- 8 overhead projector.
- 9 MR. MOORE: Okay.
- 10 MR. DINKEL: While they are setting that
- 11 up, my name is Paul Dinkel. I'm with Texaco Global
- 12 Gas and Power. I would like to thank
- 13 Commissioner Moore, who is responsible for the
- 14 staff -- members of public for coming here tonight
- 15 and giving us a chance to talk about our project.
- 16 Well, our project is called the
- 17 Sunrise Cogeneration and Power Project, and most of
- 18 you had an opportunity to look at the site this
- 19 afternoon. We're going to tell you a little bit more
- 20 about the project.
- 21 The owner of the project is Sunrise
- 22 Cogeneration Power Company, and we're essentially a
- 23 wholly owned subsidiary of Texaco Inc., and it's
- 24 going to be developed by the local Gas and Power unit
- 25 within Texaco, Inc.
- 26 Let's introduce some of our team members

1 at the table. The project development team consists

- 2 of Texaco Global Gas and Power; Black and Veatch, who
- 3 are our EP & C contractors; Radian International, who
- 4 is our metal contractor; Ellison & Schneider, who is
- 5 our outside legal counsel; and also McCutchen, Doyle,
- 6 Brown & Emersen, who is also an outside legal counsel
- 7 for the project.
- 8 Give you a little overview of what the
- 9 project is: It's a 320 megawatt cogeneration
- 10 facility. The total cost is approximately
- 11 \$200 million. It's going to be developed on an oil
- 12 field site, about a 20-acre parcel.
- We're going to be using two general
- 14 electric 7FA Turbines. They will be installed to
- 15 provide combustors to lower emissions of gas. We're
- 16 going to also use Ammonia Type SCR Systems. This
- 17 will bring our gas emissions down from 2.5 parts per
- 18 million level, which is just a little control vent.
- 19 It will be natural gas fired.
- 20 We'll not use any other fuels in this
- 21 project. Natural gas is the only fuel that we'll
- 22 use. We'll also produce about 1.8 million pounds per
- 23 hour of steam, which will be sold to a thermal host
- 24 which will use it for enhanced load recovery
- 25 injection into the oil field for recovering oil.
- We will also have a 15-mile, 230 KV

1 transmission line, which will interconnect into the

- 2 existing California Department of Water Resources
- 3 PG&E line, which is east of our site near
- 4 Buena Vista Lake.
- 5 Near the California Aqueduct is where it
- 6 will tie into this existing transmission line. It
- 7 will have two substations, one at the project site
- 8 which will be called Sunrise Substation and one at
- 9 the interconnection point into the water resource
- 10 line which will be called the Valley Acres
- 11 Substation.
- This is kind of a map that is kind of
- 13 hard to see, but this is where our plant site is.
- 14 We're right here at Derby Acres, and as you can see
- 15 the actual site is here. Our transmission route will
- 16 run east and come over to the point where it
- 17 interconnects with the water resource line, and this
- 18 is where Valley Acres Substation will be connected in
- 19 that existing lot.
- 20 That line then goes in this direction
- 21 back up midway where it -- which is a major
- 22 substation where this power will eventually end up
- 23 at.
- 24 This here is a conceptual -- it's kind of
- 25 out of focus -- conceptual layout of the facility.
- 26 And what we have here are the two General Electric

1 7FA Turbines. These are the steam generators. These

- 2 are the stats for the steam recovery generators.
- 3 This is a (inaudible) water tank.
- 4 This is the Sunrise Substation, and the
- 5 transmission line will end up going due east to the
- 6 Buena Vista area where we have the Valley Acres
- 7 Substation about 15 miles to the east.
- 8 Texaco has previously permitted several
- 9 other similar projects through the Energy Commission.
- 10 These are over at the Kern River oil field. These
- 11 are both enhanced oil recovery projects, cogeneration
- 12 projects. They're both 300 megawatts in size. It's
- 13 the Sycamore KRCC Project. They were certified in
- 14 1986 for the Sycamore Project and 1983 for the
- 15 Kern River Project.
- This is a photo which is upside down,
- 17 flipped around. This is a photo of the -- I believe,
- 18 it's either the Sycamore or Kern River -- one of the
- 19 300 megawatt projects that we licensed and has been
- 20 operating for the last 10 years.
- 21 This one uses -- it's four units, and
- 22 they're utilizing GE7FE Turbines, which is a little
- 23 smaller than the turbines that we're planning to use.
- 24 We're using -- we have four different turbines that
- 25 produce 320 megawatts. We're going to have two
- 26 turbines creating 320 megawatts plus steam.

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1 Some of the environmental benefits of the
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- 2 project: The emissions will be fully offset with
- 3 emissions reduction credits. We're going to have
- 4 minimal biological resource impacts, and we will
- 5 mitigate with those resources -- those impacts.
- 6 There is going to be minimal fresh water
- 7 consumption. We're actually going to use for a
- 8 majority of -- our water is going to be oil field
- 9 water that is soft and then treated -- is what we
- 10 use.
- 11 So we're not going to be consuming large
- 12 amounts of fresh water. The little bit of water that
- 13 we do use will be used for fire water and for potable
- 14 water.
- There's also going to be minimal
- 16 wastewater streams that we need to dispose of because
- 17 we're not using cooling towers, There is not going to
- 18 be the visible Plume towers associated with cooling
- 19 towers. It's going to be a very high-energy
- 20 efficiency project.
- 21 Looking at some of the economic benefits:
- 22 Duration the construction. There is going to be a
- 23 peak workforce of about 255 people. Once the plan is
- 24 operational, we're going to have a permanent
- 25 workforce of about 24 people to operate the facility.
- 26 As far as sales tax during construction,

1 it's going to generate about \$300- to \$400 thousand

- 2 in sales tax. Once we're going in operation roughly
- 3 \$90,000 a year in sales tax will be generated.
- 4 Looking at the actual property tax, this
- 5 project will generate about \$1.9 million. The bulk
- 6 of it going to schools, about \$1.2 million.
- 7 As far as once the plan is operational,
- 8 local purchases for materials and supplies of about
- 9 1- to \$1.2 million a year.
- 10 Looking at some of the environmental
- 11 controls at this particular plant, we'll incorporate
- 12 them implied with the best available control
- 13 technology. We're going to utilize valuable
- 14 combustors on our gas turbines. And we're going to
- 15 coordinate that -- or incorporate that with the
- 16 SCR System and the NOx Emissions at 2.5 parts per
- 17 million.
- 18 We'll also have a continuous condition to
- 19 monitor the system to make sure that we comply with
- 20 those emissions.
- 21 Looking at land uses: The site is going
- 22 to be on a 20-acre parcel. This parcel will be
- 23 subdivi--- -- or the land that it's on right now will
- 24 be subdivided into a 20-acre parcel. It will be
- 25 permitted and compatible land use. And for the
- 26 substation -- the Valley Acres Substation, which is

1 15 miles east of the site, we're planning to purchase

- 2 that land when we build the Valley Acres Substation.
- 3 Looking at some of the utility
- 4 interconnections. We're going to be supplying about
- 5 1.8 million pounds per hour of steam to the thermal
- 6 host for advanced oil recovery. We're going to be
- 7 receiving soften feed water, which is the oil field
- 8 produced water that is softened and treated that we
- 9 will use for our feed water for the bulk of our water
- 10 needs.
- 11 Nature gas will come from the Kern-Mojave
- 12 Pipe line. Right now there is an existing line which
- 13 you saw. We're going to be putting a 60-foot lateral
- 14 into that line to connect to our gas turbines.
- We're going to have a couple -- we're
- 16 going to have a couple of injection wells for
- 17 start-up steam. The non-hazardous wastewater we have
- 18 will go to the Valley Waste system for disposal, and
- 19 the fresh water will come to the West Kern Water
- 20 District. We have an existing line that is just of
- 21 south of our site that we will tap in. We will be
- 22 using very minimal amounts mostly for firewater and
- 23 potable water.
- 24 Looking at our schedule: We filed our
- 25 AFC last December. We were deemed "data adequate"
- 26 last month. For right now we have a one-year CEC

1 review process. We're expecting our permits to be

- 2 issued in the first quarter of the year 2000.
- 3 Construction would start right after we
- 4 received the permits, and then commercial operation
- 5 is planned the second quarter of 2001.
- And that's the end of the presentation.
- 7 I would be happy to answer any questions
- 8 that anyone might have.
- 9 MR. RUDNICK: My name is Phil Rudnick
- 10 (phonetic), and I'm a landowner and farmer in the
- 11 general area here in Kern County. With reference to
- 12 the energy that you'll be marketing through the
- 13 grid --
- MR. DINKEL: Yes.
- MR. RUDNICK: -- is there -- has there
- 16 been any consideration for marketing that to the
- 17 agricultural community here in Kern County and some
- 18 kind of a priority customer?
- 19 MR. DINKEL: One the things we're looking
- 20 at for our power is to either sell it into the power
- 21 exchange, or we're certainly interested in any
- 22 bilateral contracts with third parties. If it makes
- 23 sense for both parties, we'll certainly look at that.
- MR. RUDNICK: Would you be the one to
- 25 talk to in regard to that?
- MR. DINKEL: Yes.

1 MR. MOORE: Yes, a question

- 2 here.
- 3 MR. POLLACK: I'm -- my name is
- 4 Bruce Pollack (phonetic), a homeowner in Derby Acres
- 5 here. I was wondering what the impact would be on
- 6 the noise level of the area?
- 7 MR. DINKEL: Some of the results,
- 8 Dave Stine our program manager with Radian, would
- 9 like to answer that.
- 10 MR. STINE: We -- we did some noise
- 11 modeling. It's a very conservative noise modeling,
- 12 which is presented in this large application, a copy
- 13 of which is on the front table there. And the
- 14 conclusions of that -- that modeling show that the
- 15 noise impact would be essentially inaudible in the
- 16 communities around the site, Derby Acres.
- 17 MR. MOORE: Let me point out that the
- 18 reports that contain that information that Dave was
- 19 just talking about will be at the library. You can
- 20 get access to them. If you want to see the actual
- 21 numbers or you want to see the contour lines they use
- 22 to show how far out a different noise level would go,
- 23 it's in those reports.
- MR. POLLACK: How would that compare to
- 25 the other cogen site that is up on Crocker Road?
- 26 That's the one we hear pretty regular.

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1 MR. MOORE: We --
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- MR. POLLACK: This one being a new one,
- 3 we're hoping we won't hear it at all.
- 4 MR. MOORE: Right. Well, the -- the
- 5 information we've had so far is that the turbine
- 6 engines that they're talking about using are actually
- 7 quieter than the previous generation. Even though
- 8 they're producing more power, they're quieter than
- 9 the previous generation of engine; so my -- the
- 10 information we have so far would suggest that you
- 11 won't hear it here in town.
- 12 Well, with that, thank you very much.
- 13 Let me turn to Mr. Fay, and I'm going to ask him to
- 14 talk about scheduling and some of the things that the
- 15 committee is going to be doing with regards to asking
- 16 the Applicants for information via the staff and the
- 17 next set of meeting that we'll be going through.
- 18 Mr. Fay?
- MR. FAY: Thank you, Commissioner Moore.
- 20 The staff has prepared its
- 21 Issues Identification Report. And on the back of
- 22 that -- and I hope you've had a chance to grab a copy
- 23 of that report. On the back of that is a proposed
- 24 schedule. It's their first cut at a schedule. I'm
- 25 going to ask Ms. Bergquist to go over the report and
- 26 also review the schedule.

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1 The committee will be looking at the
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- 2 schedule and in about two weeks, issue a scheduling
- 3 order that will bind the parties -- subject to any
- 4 change -- will bind the parties up until the time
- 5 they're ready to get into evidentiary hearings.
- 6 Where this could be useful for you, is to
- 7 look over the schedule and see how it fits into your
- 8 plans in the near term future.
- 9 If you want to attend the workshops,
- 10 they're going to occur during the discovery phase,
- 11 and so the time is mapped out for that phase is the
- 12 time you would want to be aware that there would be
- 13 notices -- public notices coming out when you might
- 14 want to come to a workshop on -- for instance biology
- or noise regarding the question that just came up.
- 16 That would be your chance to hear the staff and the
- 17 Applicant have an informal give and take, less formal
- 18 than this, and you can ask your own questions or
- 19 point out things that you personally observed that
- 20 maybe the Applicant wasn't aware of or staff was not
- 21 aware of, and the -- actually, the staff does take
- 22 these comments into account, and if they agree with
- 23 them, they would modify their analysis accordingly.
- So if you do have a curiosity and/or
- 25 concern, come to those workshops. The schedule will
- 26 help you target those.

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1 We will take the schedule -- the
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- 2 committee will take the schedule right up to the
- 3 pre-hearing contract. That is after the end of what
- 4 we call the discovery phase.
- 5 In other words, the parties have
- 6 discovered all they feel they need to know about the
- 7 project. The staff has issued a preliminary report
- 8 on the project and has put that out to the public,
- 9 and then we have pre-hearing conference where we
- 10 decide what issues need to be adjudicated by the
- 11 committee, really formal evidence by the committee
- 12 and which issues have pretty much been resolved to
- 13 the satisfaction of the parties, and if the committee
- 14 agrees, there won't be as much time spent on those
- 15 issues.
- And at the pre-hearing conference, we
- 17 hear from everybody as to what the status of the
- 18 record is at that time and that allows the committee
- 19 to create a hearing order based on the information
- 20 that they learned at the pre-hearing conference. And
- 21 the hearing order was scheduled. The evidentiary
- 22 hearing, that's the hearing where we swear witnesses
- 23 to tell the truth and they come up on the stand, just
- 24 like a civil trial, and they testify as to this
- 25 data and biological resource, Mr. York will be the
- 26 witness to testify, yes, did he did an analysis of

1 this project, and here's what he thinks of it as a

- 2 result.
- 3 And Texaco -- the Applicant will possibly
- 4 cross-examination Mr. York or if they think
- 5 everything he says is terrific, they would probably
- 6 just leave it at that, but other parties like CURE
- 7 may put on witnesses, may cross-examination the
- 8 witnesses that the staff and the Applicant put on,
- 9 anybody else that intervenes will have the
- 10 opportunity to do that, and that's one of the big
- 11 differences between following the case as a member of
- 12 the public and coming to the events, keeping yourself
- 13 informed and intervening. If you intervene as a
- 14 party in the case, you could put on witnesses. You
- 15 could present formal testimony; but if you do, you're
- 16 subject to cross-examination.
- 17 So that's one of those benefits and
- 18 burdens. It's a two-sided thing, and you just have
- 19 to decide how deeply involved you think your interest
- 20 to be in a case, and we can advise you as you go
- 21 along. But it's everybody's individual decision at
- 22 what level they want to participate.
- 23 So I would like to turn it over to
- 24 Ms. Bergquist, and then we may discuss this further
- 25 after she goes through the scheduling and issues
- 26 report.

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1 MS. BERGQUIST: One thing that has been
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- 2 made available to you in the handouts today is what
- 3 we call our "Issues Identification Report." This is
- 4 a report that we produce based on our review of their
- 5 application and any supplemental information they may
- 6 have produced; and after reviewing, making data
- 7 requests, and receiving additional information from
- 8 that information, we look at those issues which
- 9 appear to be -- well, possibly for reasons that they
- 10 might cause a timing problem. They might hold up the
- 11 issuance of the -- of the report; they might -- they
- 12 might cause -- there might be a disagreement amongst
- 13 parties, and in these issues we identify a total of
- 14 three.
- 15 And I'll start with one that I identified
- 16 because it more or less covers the entire project
- 17 which is we determined that the application for
- 18 certification, the supplemental materials, did not
- 19 identify what we called "Indirect and Accumulative
- 20 Impact of the Project." The project itself has
- 21 direct impact just because it's built on a piece of
- 22 land, and it has a transmission line and it has
- 23 certain pipelines. But in addition to that, it may
- 24 have a causal relationship to things that seem wholly
- 25 unrelated. This is -- in terms of accumulative
- 26 impacts, it is those impacts that occur out there in

- 1 the -- you know, within the area within the
- 2 reasonably conceivable future that are similar in
- 3 size and nature.
- 4 So, for instance, if you work a La Paloma
- 5 which is the U.S. generated co-project, we would look
- 6 at Elk Hills, which is another project being
- 7 proposed, and to the extent that that information, we
- 8 would also look at Midway Sunset's intention to
- 9 put in another 500 megawatts as well as any other
- 10 similarly sized project in the -- in the area.
- 11 So that's sort of the basic definitions
- 12 of those two things. And what we found in our review
- 13 of the material submitted was that we needed more
- 14 information on -- on these -- what we perceived as
- 15 indirect impacts.
- 16 And so there appears -- the issue at
- 17 heart here seems to be that there is a potential for
- 18 disagreement about -- between the Applicant and the
- 19 Energy Commission staff and other parties including
- 20 CURE, that there has not been active discussion of
- 21 these indirect impacts. As a result, we've asked for
- 22 a lot of information in addition to that which was
- 23 provided on what is known as the "Interconnecting
- 24 Utility Quarter, " which brings the natural gas,
- 25 water -- produced water to the plant and takes out
- 26 the waste water and provide steam to the oil

- 1 fields.
- 2 And further -- but what we will do to
- 3 resolve this issue is we will work very closely to --
- 4 we will work very closely with the -- we will work
- 5 very closely with the Applicant and also other
- 6 interested parties in an attempt, you know, to come
- 7 to a mutual understanding of what the project is
- 8 constituted of.
- 9 And hopefully through a series of
- 10 workshops and discussions and negotiations, we will
- 11 come to a meeting of the minds.
- 12 But what I was saying earlier, the reason
- 13 that we talk about issues one thing that might create
- 14 an issue is a project impact may be such that you
- 15 will never be able to mitigate it to a level of less
- 16 significance, and the project, as proposed, may not
- 17 apply to laws, ordinances, regulations, or standards,
- 18 which we also call "LORS."
- 19 And third -- this is the instance in
- 20 which I'm speaking of -- the potential conflict over
- 21 findings and conditions of certification.
- 22 So the second issue area that we
- 23 identified was the biological.
- Oh, as I said earlier, I identified the
- 25 three areas as being, which I just talked about,
- 26 indirect and accumulative impacts, air quality, and

- 1 then biological resources, and there are certain
- 2 potential scheduling issues. There -- we are
- 3 required to work with the San Joaquin Valley Unified
- 4 Air Pollution Control Permit so that they can issue
- 5 their -- their permits. Sometimes there is problems
- 6 with these not being issued in a timely fashion; and,
- 7 secondly, we also do obtain a biological consultation
- 8 from the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service and California
- 9 Department of Fish and Game.
- 10 Sometimes this becomes a scheduling
- 11 problem because they take a long time to obtain; and,
- 12 thirdly, PG&E must conduct a transmission line study
- 13 and these may potentially hang up our normal process.
- 14 The area beyond indirect and accumulative
- 15 impacts that we picked up -- and it's sort of -- it
- 16 kind of almost feeds off the indirect and
- 17 accumulative impacts because here we have the
- 18 indirect impacts of the TNAP utility corridor, new
- 19 and relocated steam generators, expansion of the
- 20 Midway-Sunset oil field. Well, that's all part and
- 21 parcel of the difference in our view of what things
- 22 of our impact is and also that of the Applicant.
- 23 And also another potential area is the
- 24 air quality offsets, emissions reduction credits. We
- 25 know that the Applicant is acquiring these, but we
- 26 don't know what they are. So, again, it's area that

- 1 could be a potential issue.
- What we see right now is we hope to
- 3 obtain a preliminary determination of compliance from
- 4 the San Joaquin Valley Unified Control District on
- 5 June 17 -- our best shot. Then we will be able to
- 6 produce a preliminary staff assessment by August 2,
- 7 and a finally a final determination of compliance
- 8 from the -- again, from the San Joaquin Unified --
- 9 San Joaquin Valley Unified Control District by the
- 10 16th of August and then finally our final staff
- 11 assessment by the end of September.
- 12 Biological resources begin -- their
- 13 issues again spin off a difference and definition of
- 14 the impacts that we see that are emanating from this
- 15 particular project. We feel that there are going to
- 16 be indirect impacts to habitat in the Midway-Sunset
- 17 oil field that will be provided steam by this power
- 18 plant. We also feel that -- well, we will have to
- 19 very closely coordinate with the California
- 20 Department of Fishing and Game and the U.S. Fish and
- 21 Wildlife Service and The Bureau of Land Management.
- 22 This could be a very time-consuming process and
- 23 perhaps might even be a very difficult and
- 24 complicated one.
- 25 And finally the Applicant is encouraged
- 26 to prepare what is known as a "Biological Resource

- 1 Mitigation Implementation and Monitoring Plan, " and
- 2 this must be completed in a timely fashion. There is
- 3 a potential for that to become, perhaps, difficult;
- 4 but as with the definition of the impacts, both
- 5 accumulative and indirect, we will work very closely
- 6 with the Applicant, with other interested parties,
- 7 and in this instance we will work very closely with
- 8 the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, with the
- 9 California Fish and Game, and the Wildlife Service to
- 10 resolve these difficulties of this essential issue.
- 11 We can jump by that one. And here is the
- 12 schedule. It's a first cut at it. Pretty much this
- 13 is available on the backside of the Issues
- 14 Identification Report. That is up here at the front
- 15 table. Basically, you can see that hopefully; and, I
- 16 think, the Applicant mentioned this: If things go
- 17 this well, we don't have any real big hitches, we
- 18 hope to be able to have -- the Commission will adopt
- 19 a decision by mid-February of the year 2000.
- The end. So that's the end of my report.
- 21 MR. MOORE: Thank you, Ms. Bergquist.
- 22 Before I ask the Applicant's response, let me turn to
- 23 Ms. Ichien and ask you in the process here the staff
- 24 will be negotiating with the Applicant to try and
- 25 make sure that we get the information we need in the
- 26 time allotted and in a form that the committee can

- 1 use to make a decision.
- 2 Can you describe the role that Counsel's
- 3 office plays in terms of getting that information. I
- 4 mean, at some point what is our "request power," if
- 5 you will, to make sure we get what we need after we
- 6 have negotiated the -- as well as we can.
- 7 MS. ICHIEN: During the phase of
- 8 discovery when the staff and other parties are
- 9 sending data requests to the Applicant and possibly
- 10 other parties asking for information for the staff to
- 11 complete it's analysis, there will be workshops where
- 12 we will be discussing the data requests, clarifying
- 13 them to the extent that there is disagreements over
- 14 the relevance of the data requests. We will try to
- 15 iron out those difference in publicly held workshops.
- 16 There may come a time, and, in fact, I
- 17 think the Applicant has already filed formal
- 18 objections to some of our data requests. And so
- 19 depending on what those objections are, the staff may
- 20 agree with the reasons for the objections; the staff
- 21 may disagree. And if the staff disagrees and
- 22 believes that the information requested is
- 23 relevant and necessary for our analysis and
- 24 contributes to a decision in this case, then we have
- 25 the option of filing what is called a "motion to
- 26 compel."

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1 And we would file that with the Committee
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- 2 and serve it on all parties, and it would be publicly
- 3 available in the docket and probably also posted on
- 4 the web site for the public. That motion to compel
- 5 is a request to the committee asking that they issue
- 6 an order to compel the Applicant to provide the
- 7 information requested.
- 8 And, typically, when such a filing is
- 9 made, the Committee will hold a hearing and receive
- 10 oral arguments from the parties as to whether -- the
- 11 pros and cons of compelling the Applicant to provide
- 12 the data requested, which is all to say that all
- 13 parties, including the staff and intervenors and the
- 14 Applicant, have the right under our regulations to
- 15 ask for in writing, information from each other for
- 16 purposes of doing their respective analysis or
- 17 comparing their respective pieces of testimony. And
- 18 if we run into difficulty, even after attempting to
- 19 negotiate resolutions, then we do have the option of
- 20 filing these formal requests to the Committee, who
- 21 then is asked to step in and decide whether or not a
- 22 data request is relevant and the information should
- 23 be provided.
- 24 The committee also, of course, has the
- 25 discretion to ask questions, whenever it sees fit,
- 26 and to issue orders accordingly asking the parties to

1 address particular issues that they want to receive

- 2 information on.
- 3 MR. MOORE: Thank you, Arlene.
- 4 MS. ICHIEN: Did that respond --
- 5 MR. MOORE: It does, and I thank you very
- 6 much.
- 7 To the Applicant, Paul? Jeff? You sent
- 8 us a letter indicating that you have some difficulty
- 9 with the data requests. I don't know how many of
- 10 those have been resolved at this point. You might be
- 11 able to bring us up to date. I'm not sure that we
- 12 were expecting full resolution because as Kristina
- 13 said, there will be workshops, you know, in which
- 14 that will come up, but maybe you can give us and the
- 15 public an overview of where you are.
- MR. HARRIS: We did file our objections
- 17 to certain data requests, but not all of them,
- 18 obviously. Those data requests under the statutes
- 19 and regulations would require --
- 20 MR. MOORE: You know, Jeff, would you
- 21 stand up. We can hardly hear you.
- MR. HARRIS: Under the regulations we're
- 23 required within 16 days to let the staff know if
- 24 there is certain data requests that we want to have
- 25 further discussions with the staff on these issues.
- 26 So we filed that on the 16th and most of the staff, I

- 1 think, just recently got it. So I'm sure they
- 2 haven't had time to quickly review all of those
- 3 things, but our intent to is work closely with the
- 4 staff and informally in the process that was just
- 5 described, make sure that we can define these issues,
- 6 flush them out with all of the parties, and figure
- 7 out what the common ground is and, basically, move
- 8 forward very informally.
- 9 You described a very formal proceed that
- 10 is ultimately the final resolution. We don't
- 11 anticipate ever getting to that point. We really
- 12 want to work with the staff closely on all these
- issues, make sure we're understanding the questions,
- 14 make sure we can get the data in a forum that is
- 15 usable, and get it out to everybody else as well.
- 16 We're looking forward to those workshops. You know,
- 17 the main few issues that we think we have to work out
- 18 all related to the issues that have been described
- 19 just a few minutes ago. So I think we have our hand
- 20 around the issues, and now we just need to sit down
- 21 and kind of hammer these things out.
- We're looking forward to working with the
- 23 staff on that.
- 24 MR. MOORE: Thank you. Let me say that
- 25 one of the roles of a committee like this of publicly
- 26 appointed officials like Ms. Sharplass and myself is

1 that we respond to information. We're not here to

- 2 penalize anyone. We're here to make sure that an
- 3 application from these folks is fairly considered and
- 4 that everyone who's interested in it gets a chance to
- 5 understand that information to the best of their
- 6 ability and tell us what they think. And in the end,
- 7 we will make a decision based on what we hear.
- 8 So our objective is not -- our
- 9 objective as just indicated to fight with anyone or
- 10 anything else. We just want to make sure everything
- 11 that we have is adequate, clear, and understandable
- 12 information on which to make a decision.
- 13 That's our job. That is what you pay us
- 14 for is to make good decisions. So there -- is, at
- 15 least, one of the intervenors here.
- 16 Would you like to say anything on behalf
- 17 of CURE?
- 18 MS. POOL: I am one of those intervenors.
- 19 My name is Kate Pool. I represent California Union
- 20 for Reliable Energy. With me is Dr. Phillis Fox, who
- 21 is one of our consultants. And feel free to ask me
- 22 any questions if you want to.
- MR. MOORE: Are there representatives
- 24 from other intervenors here?
- Okay. Anybody in the public that would
- like to ask us a question about what we're doing and

- 1 why we're doing it?
- 2 MR. SMITH: Yeah, I would.
- 3 MR. MOORE: Yes, sir. Can I have your
- 4 name, please.
- 5 MR. SMITH: Bill Smith.
- 6 MR. MOORE: Bill Smith.
- 7 MR. SMITH: Retired resident here.
- 8 What are you going to do for us as a
- 9 community?
- 10 MR. MOORE: Well, I'll tell you right
- 11 now, I can't define what we will do for you as a
- 12 community, but as a part of the process where they
- 13 reveal the full nature of their plan, and we hold
- 14 hearings on it, there will be certain things where
- 15 we'll come to a conclusion that there ought to be a
- 16 community improvement or a contribution to the
- 17 community or a change in design that benefits the
- 18 community.
- 19 So as a result of the hearings that we go
- 20 through over the next year, the kinds of things that
- 21 the community as a whole, you and all your neighbors,
- 22 are worried about will get told to us, and when we go
- 23 through and say -- for instance, we should certify
- 24 this plan. We will typically certify it with a list
- 25 of conditions that they have to comply with, some of
- 26 which may include community improvements.

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1 So I can't tell you today because,
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- 2 frankly, this is our first chance to really see the
- 3 project. But over the course of the year, where we
- 4 hold these very public hearings and discuss what they
- 5 propose, what they propose to do, over what time
- 6 frame, the concerns of the community will come out,
- 7 and they'll get incorporated in the decision that we
- 8 make. So --
- 9 MR. SMITH: My thought is very, very
- 10 simple. If you're going to build an electric
- 11 plant and be in the electric business, why can't we
- 12 get some streetlights out of it?
- MR. MOORE: Okay.
- 14 MR. SMITH: You're going to be here, and
- 15 you're going to be involved, you know, we are going
- 16 to have to put up with you. You're going to be on
- 17 our roads and every place else. In our mind, why
- 18 can't we have a few badly-needed street lights
- 19 because you're in the business.
- 20 MR. FAY: I want to clarify, the
- 21 committee up here is from the State of California.
- 22 MR. SMITH: I'm looking at the whole
- 23 thing.
- 24 MR. FAY: Texaco is the company of the
- 25 Applicant, and I think you're talking about them --
- MR. SMITH: All you people put

- 1 together -- you're doing it.
- 2 MR. MOORE: And that's fair. The --
- 3 you're living in an unincorporated area of Kern
- 4 County, and the supervisors who represent you are
- 5 responsible for land-use decisions, and they get
- 6 involved in this process. So the question --
- 7 MR. SMITH: Never been out here one
- 8 time. And we're usually not on the map. We like
- 9 that idea.
- 10 MR. MOORE: I'll make a call to your
- 11 supervisor before the next hearing and make sure they
- 12 know you're on the map.
- 13 MR. SMITH: Appreciate that. Thank
- 14 you.
- 15 MR. MOORE: All right. Anyone else that
- 16 would like to ask us a question?
- 17 All right. With that you'll see and here
- 18 from us again.
- 19 Before we close this up tonight, I just
- 20 want to thank our host, Texaco, for the food. I
- 21 think that was very generous and nice. It's
- 22 certainly in the community spirit, and that's the way
- 23 we would like to operate and be accessible, again,
- 24 within limits given the cloak of ex-parte
- 25 communications that we have to operate under.
- So you can find us. We're very

52 accessible via the web or through our public advisor

and look forward to working with you. Thank you very much for coming.

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     COUNTY OF KERN
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                 I, Tricia D. Burt, a Certified Shorthand
     Reporter for the State of California, holding
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 7
     Certificate No. 11518, do hereby certify that I was
 8
     present and reported in stenotypy all the proceedings
 9
     in the foregoing-entitled matter; and I further
10
     certify that the foregoing is a full, true and
11
     correct statement of such proceedings and a full,
     true and correct transcript of my stenotype notes
12
     thereof.
13
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15
                 Dated at Bakersfield, California, on
16
     March 31, 1999.
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                        Tricia D. Burt, CSR No. 11518
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STATE OF CALIFORNIA